

ignition test is necessary.

(ii) Coresta joint project - with BAT and paper companies e.g. Kimberley Clark, Ecusta in USA and other paper companies in Europe. Problems have ensued with regard to air flow in the vicinity of the mock up so a type of enclosure is being developed. Six different model cigarettes and one fabric with five levels of potassium acetate added are being tested.

Modifications of the T.S.G. cigarettes are being used in the USA - a flue-cured/burley blend with expanded lamina 12, 50, 75, 100% added, paper porosity (10 Coresta), and no citrate on paper.

The industry is still faced with the eventual problem of a consumer acceptable, fire-safe cigarette in the final analysis. This is yet to be achieved, even though they have worked on the problem from the finalization of T.S.G. until the present formulation of the TAG (2 years). The industry members of A.S.G. (4) feel that 10 members are very anti-tobacco. While the 10 are beginning to understand the commercialism issue, they tend to view the need for regulation of the industry to enforce fire safety. The industry is also worried about testing all commercial cigarettes and finding that some are better than others. Say, for instance, if these were "Now/Carlton", primarily expanded leaf, yet they are not very commercially acceptable.

The program is approximately as follows:

-Gann aims to have one or more test methods by December 1991.

-There will be a collaboration study in 1992 of proposed test methods.

-All commercial cigarettes in the USA and any of those imported, will be tested by the proposed test method in 1993.

The next meeting of TAG is June 3 in Washington, DC.

7. ENVIRONMENT AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

There are various cost estimates of the 1990 Clean Air Act implementation. An article in WSJ, January 25, 1991, states it will cost an added \$25-30 b a year in addition to the more than \$100 b already spent annually on all pollution controls. Government imposed

2028467467

production, increase cost to consumers, and inhibit economic growth. The Worldwatch Institute in its annual "State of the World" report on global environmental trends suggested an imposition of "green" taxes aimed at curbing industrial practices that pollute the air and degrade natural resources (Washington Post, February 12). Interestingly, the Louisiana Legislature has enacted a new tax rate that ties the amount of business property taxes a company pays to its environmental record. This innovative step links tax policies with a dual goal of reducing pollution and gaining greater compliance with environmental law (NY Times, Feb. 27)

But is the new Clean Air Act necessary? EPA data shows that not only every major air pollutant declined during the Reagan era but that the pace of decline was accelerating in 1988-1989, suggesting that in today's high tech economy, growth may do more to clean the environment than regulation. The emissions of 128 million metric tons in 1986 in the USA were 13% lower than in 1940, although the U.S. population had risen by 32% and the real GNP increased by over 380% (Washington Times, March 19).

I have referred in previous S&H Reports (No. 1, p. 23, No. 2 p. 23, No. 4, p. 17) to EPA national environmental priorities, that are sometimes misplaced. Scientists believe that high risk ecological threats, including the depletion of the ozone layer, the extinction of species, loss of biological diversity, destruction of habitats and global warming are high on the list with hazardous waste among the lowest. Public opinion surveys often place the ratings the other way round. EPA Reilly is seeking a national debate on the subject in order to shape a coherent, long term environmental policy based on scientific assessments of risk (NY Times, January 26 (S)).

EPA Reilly is much in favor of voluntary and economic incentives to protect the environment rather than an adversarial relationship. The 1990 Clean Air Act requires the EPA to begin to issue standards for 189 pollutants (Los Angeles Times, February 3). EPA has sent letters to the largest industrial polluters requesting voluntary cuts in U.S. emission for 17 of these, posing the greatest threats to human health, namely Benzene; cadmium and its compounds; carbon tetrachloride; chloroform; chromium and its compounds; cyanides; dichloromethane; lead and its compounds; mercury and its compounds, methyl ethyl ketone; methyl isobutyl ketone; nickel and its compounds; tetrachloroethylene; toluene; 1,1,1-trichloroethane; trichloroethylene; and xylene(s).

2028467468

There continues to be division of opinion over the danger of Radon emissions in households (N&O, January 16 (S)). A National Academy of Science study concluded that risks of radon were overstated by 20% because estimates were based on studies of uranium miners underground (Washington Post, April 3). EPA still recommend that steps should be taken to reduce levels if they are above 4 picocuries per liter of air.

On the other hand, lead poisoning has become more prevalent, mainly through its original use in lead paint, lead pipes and lead solder, eventually appearing in drinking water. Lead paint was banned for residential use in 1973 (U.S. News and World Report, March 4).

An EPA Report of December 14 argues that electromagnetic fields from electric power lines and homes are "a possible, but not proven cause of cancer in humans". There are arguments and studies for and against this conclusion and it obviously needs further study (NY Times, February 3 (S) February 3).

An excellent status review assessing the health risks of pesticides is contained in C & EN, January 7, 1991. Much of it stems from the many articles of Ames and Gold, to which I have referred in previous SNH Reports. They continue to argue that natural plant pesticides pose greater risks than synthetic ones. Even Koop in an interview stated that "there is nothing to show that organic food is any safer or more nutritious than non-organic food. No one has yet been made sick or killed by any pesticide that has been found on food" (The Quill, Jan/Feb 1991)

Eight states, six in the northeast, enacted legislation to limit the amount of toxic heavy metals in packaging in 1990. Efforts by a Source Reduction Council of the Coalition of North East Governors are being made to develop packaging guidelines and standards. Environmental and consumer groups want specific goals and time tables, but packaged-goods companies want loose voluntary standards. Such discussions will continue everywhere (NY Times, February 4 (S)).

8. ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE

(a) EPA/E.T.S.

The Indoor Air Quality and Total Human Exposure Committee of the Science Advisory Board held hearings on December 4 and 5, 1990 on the EPA Review Draft on

2028467469

Lung Cancers in Adults and Respiratory Disorders in Children" EPA/600/6-90/006A.

A draft review of the EPA draft has now been written. It is not all that well produced, with many gaps, and is somewhat disorganized and repetitive. It makes recommendations on how the second draft should be written and what conclusions should be made. It seems to have taken little notice of many presentations at the hearings and even of papers produced at various passive smoking seminars of the past few years, particularly those that have shown little hazard or risk from ETS exposure in the home or the work place.

The committee accepts the overall conclusion that ETS should be classified as a Group A Carcinogen. This is based on the evidence that mainstream smoke causes lung cancer and the resemblance of ETS to mainstream smoke in composition. They recommend an expansion of data to address more fully the toxicology of ETS and the evidence on active smoking and lung cancer. This more comprehensive review would then strengthen the determination that ETS is a Group A Carcinogen.

The 1986 Surgeon General's Report is quoted as concluding that there was enough toxicological similarity between mainstream smoke and ETS to justify using the evidence from active smoking in reaching conclusions concerning ETS and lung cancer.

This conclusion is stated many times and permeates the whole tone of the draft review. The Science Advisory Board will meet on April 18/19. They will discuss this ETS draft review on April 19. It is understood that a copy of the review will be available at that time and I hope to obtain a copy. It is anticipated that the EPA will completely rework the first draft based on the S.A.B. deliberations. This will take some months to achieve. However, it could be presumed that this second draft would be accepted by the S.A.B. with little comment.

It is obvious that the Industry will be very concerned with this development.

(b) ETS OTHER MATTERS

The Bureau of National Affairs (BNA) made a short review of smoking policies in work places as it relates to the EPA Report (S). The easiest and simplest policy is to have smoke-free work places, but this is not acceptable to many workers, who wish special areas for smoking.

2028467470

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is gathering information on whether indoor tobacco smoke should be regulated as a work place hazard. ASH has been attempting to force OSHA to make a decision on this matter by litigation. Finally, in November 1990, OSHA informed ASH that it would not be prepared to issue regulations until the EPA had completed its assessment of ETS. OSHA has now been legally required to hold briefings and oral arguments (May 6th). Whether ASH will be able to force emergency regulations without waiting for the results of the EPA report (obviously, further delayed) is not known. OSHA is very politically oriented and is also concerned with the economy and adding extra costs to business.

There continues to be a number of ETS litigation cases. A non-smoking waiter in Sausalito, California claimed that his heart attack was caused by exposure to other people's cigarettes. The lawyer defending the case for the insurance company solicited opinions outside and on this basis (bad judgment) the company settled under Workman's Compensation (Washington Post, December 15).

Another case involving a former Army employee who argued that the Government was obliged to provide him with a smoke-free environment because of asthma, was dismissed both by the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court. Other cases are in process.

Shopland, Coordinator of NCI Smoking and Tobacco Control Program (page 18), anticipates that if ETS is labeled as a Group A Carcinogen, it will be potent ammunition for public policy activists. It could start an avalanche of laws and policies banning smoking in public places, as well as lawsuits against employers and others, who do not provide smoke-free indoor environments (JNCI, February 6, 1991 (S)).

A detailed review paper on "Passive Smoking and Heart Disease" has been published by S.A. Glantz (extremely anti-tobacco) and W. W. Parmley (Circulation, January 1 (S)). This is the first major publication linking heart disease to non-smokers by exposure to ETS. It reviewed 10 studies of smoker's non-smoking spouses. Glantz went on to say that ETS is the third leading cause of preventable death behind active smoking and alcohol.

L. S. Zahn reported on an "International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate" July 29-August 3, 1990 (S). This is worth review, since ETS played a part in its deliberations. Indoor air quality research

2028467471

has grown at a tremendous rate in the last 10 years, since most people spend about 80-90% of the lives indoors during their lives. Tightened structures generate and retain harmful or potentially harmful organisms, agents, gases, odors and particulates. One might, therefore, anticipate some indoor air legislation during the 102nd Congress

I referred to a number of papers on ETS in S&H Report No. 4, 1990, page 19. Correspondence relating

to these (including P.H Lee) was published in NEJM, February 7, 1991 (S).

Schiffman (AJPH, March 1991) reports that nicotine from ETS has been found in cervixes of women non-smokers. How long it stays there and what effect it has is unknown. One study published in JAMA has found an increased risk of cervical cancer among women exposed to ETS.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

1. The first International Conference on Smokeless Tobacco and Health took place in Columbus, Ohio on April 10-13, 1991 (S). Sullivan, Secretary HHS, used the occasion to blast the tobacco industry on their advertising and sponsorship of smoking events (N&O, April 11, 1991 (S)).

2. The Council for Tobacco Research appointed Dr. J. F. Glenn, Scientific Director since 1988, to Chairman succeeding William Hobbs. Their 1991 research allocation will be \$18,000,000 or \$160 m since 1954 (S).

3. There was an interesting review of tobacco growing for the production of proteins on Channel 4 Public Television January 24. Though this has never become commercial, the idea of using tobacco for producing other chemicals e.g. pharmaceuticals was discussed.

4. The Federal Trade Commission submitted their annual report on the state of the smokeless tobacco industry (FTC Watch, January 28).

5. Smokeless tobacco, so widely used by baseball players, has been banned by the Commissioner of Baseball in four rookie and short season Class A minor leagues. It will be interesting to see the results in due course (WDT, March 14 (S)).

6. Wrigley is launching a national advertising campaign that depicts "Wrigley Spearmint Gum" as an alternative

2028467472

for smokers in situations where smoking is prohibited or restricted (AdAge, February 11). In a similar manner, Advantage Life Products are now selling "Smoker's Choice" nationally (AdAge, February 25 (S)). This company markets "CigArrest".

7. P.T. continue to have problems with rejection of their support of the Arts, which they support at the rate of \$15 m annually (N.Y. Times, December 18 (S)).

8. In a survey by J.D. Power and Associates, 70% of the people who own 2-3 year old cars do not let anyone smoke inside, and about 50% would rather see automakers remove lighters altogether (Washington Times, January 25 (S)).

9. A campaign to have public institutional investors divest tobacco related stocks was strongly rejected by executives of the \$57 b California Public Employees Retirement System. Dale Hanson, Chief of the California Employees Fund in Sacramento, said divestment would be a flagrant violation of his fiduciary role (Pensions and Investments, March 4 (S)). Meanwhile, John Hopkins University is another organization to recently divest (Los Angeles Times, February 23).

10. J. Bennett in "Health Research Charities: Image and Reality" found that the American Cancer Society (ACS), the American Heart Association (AHA) and the American Lung Association (ALA) had contributions of \$656 m in 1988, funds supposedly for research, yet ACS spent 26.6% of \$336 m, AHA 30% of \$217 m and ALA only 4.1% of \$104 m on research. 25% goes on fund raising, administration, salaries and so on and a major proportion for lobbying.

11. The ability to quit smoking is very much dependent on age, sex, race, and level of education. The percentage of people who have quit, age 18-34 32.3%, 35-54 43.5%, over 55, 64.5%.

12. I note that the Minister of Overseas Development has stated that the U.K. will not fund tobacco projects in developing countries, because of the health risks of tobacco products (British Overseas Development, March 1991).

13. Two new books: Smokeless Tobacco in the Western World 1550-1950. Jan Rogozinski. Physiology and Biochemistry of Tobacco Plants, T.C. TSO

2028467473

II. CANADA

LEGISLATION

No judgment has been issued on the Imperial/RJR Macdonald advertising suit against the Government.

The proposals for changes under the Tobacco Products Control Act will still await the results of this judgment.

INDUSTRY

Cigarette sales were down to 45.9 b in 1990, a loss of 3.5 % over 1989; fine cut tobacco fell to 6,660 metric tons down 14%; pipe tobacco sales decreased to 132 metric tons down 23.2% and cigars dropped to 190 m pieces down 14.4% (Globe and Mail, January 19).

Federal Excise Taxes were raised February 27th by \$6.00 C per carton, \$3 C per cigarette. Some Provinces have already increased their own taxes, others are in legislative session. Most will probably make a further increase. One must anticipate a further loss of sales. Between 1984 and 1990 sales of tobacco fell 25%, twice as fast as in the USA. It would appear that dramatic increases in federal and provincial taxes are affecting smoking levels considerably.

Tax increases have spurred growth in smuggling in U.S./Canadian border towns. There has been a significant increase in the black market in untaxed cigarettes from Canadian Indian reservations, where the law allows tobacco to be sold to residents tax-free. According to police figures, the Government loses more than \$100 m C to cigarette smugglers (Investor's Daily, April 4 (S)).

The Quebec Order of Pharmacists have decided to ban sales of tobacco products in each drug store on April 23 (WSJ, February 21). The statement is made that sale of tobacco is incompatible with pharmacists role as health professions. There is opposition by many pharmacists, whose sales could drop an average of \$10,000 C per annum and it could proceed to a court judgment.

Consumer and Corporate Affairs Department, Canada based on complaints from Canadian Council on Smoking and Health is investigating the tobacco industry's use of the words "Light" and "Extra Light" as applied to roll your own, fine cut tobaccos. The current standards of analysis described in Health and Welfare regulations are imprecise. It is understood that the Canadian General Standards Board have been requested to describe a standard for such products.

2028467474

I believe that it is hoped that such a standard could be approved by ISO. As of this moment, the industry argues that product descriptions are very subjective (WSJ, December 19 (S)).

Rothman's Benson & Hedges is suing Imperial Tobacco and RJR/Macdonald for patent infringement on a build your own, R.Y.O. cigarette K.V. This case started February 5th and judgment is expected in the next two months (Tobacco Reporter, January 1991 (S)).

LEAF PRODUCTION AND SALES

The 1990 Ontario crop finished on March 14 with 123, 234, 435 pounds sold at \$147.53 C per 100 pounds.

The 1991 crop of $130 + 5 = 135$ million has been agreed with a guaranteed average export price of \$1.42 C per pound. Not all prices are fully agreed yet, but the overall domestic/export should be about \$1.94 C.

Without doubt, emphasis is being placed on exports. Bob Vansco, Executive Director of Export Sales for the Marketing Board (formerly RJR/Macdonald) coordinated 12 Maturity workshops in 1991 to about 500 farmers. This was highly successful. It is hoped that farmers will improve production methods and grading as a result. The increase of 1991 size crop and price should help.

The Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food in Ontario announced a \$1.9 million program to encourage increased export opportunities, called "Edge". The industry has not taken it up as yet, but it does allow money to be available for promotion. A team from the Marketing Board are visiting Eastern Europe in the next few weeks.

(S) Copy sent to P.A.S.

J.S. Campbell
April 19th, 1990.

2028467475